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material selected from the group consisting of polyurethane, metal, and plastics having memory.

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 have been canceled, and claims 22-27 have been added, with claim 22 being independent.

The Office Action states that claims 1-6, 9 and 10 are rejected as being anticipated by Wilson et al. The Office states that Wilson teaches a material, a coiled section and a handle section and that the coiled section of Wilson ranges between the lengths and diameters claim.

The Office Action also states that Wilson teaches a straight piece configured as claimed.

In response, applicant notes the following:

No where in Wilson is there taught a straight handle or dimensions for the size of the coiled member. In fact, the drawings and the description teach away from the straight handle. The "handle" as described by the comments written on the drawings, supports a ring structure or a loop. In order for the "handle" to support a ring or a loop, the handle can not be open ended, i.e., the handle can not be a straight integral piece of material. Otherwise, how could a closed loop structure be attached to the handle?

Furthermore, the specification itself teaches away from a straight handle. In column 2, line 58-column 3, line 5, the patent states:

A coiled extensible belt is shown at 2 around the woman's waist and having attached at a particular point a coiled and therefore extensible lanyard 3 having a ring 4 at its end to which there are attached a number of keys. This is a modification useful for hotel maids, housekeepers and the like or for other persons who must carry a number of keys with them.....It can readily be seen that if the keys are grasped and the lanyard 3 is stretched out, for example to about three feet, the keys can be used conveniently without detaching from

the belt. As soon as the unlocking operation has been performed, the lanyard 3 snaps back and hangs the keys much closer to the belt.

Additionally, in Column 3, line 6, the specification refers to the figure noted by the Office action. The specification in referring to Figure 2, again teaches away from the present invention.

Starting at Column 3, line 7, the specification states:

This figure also illustrates an attachment of the lanyard at one end of the belt by an integral molded-in plastic ring 8 through which the elastic of the belt passes. The same ring 8 also carries a snap hook 9 which can snap into the key ring and hold it up even closer to the belt when not in use., as shown in Fig. 3

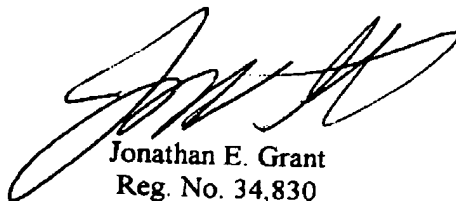
Column 3, lines 25,- 28 also state:

Fig. 3 illustrates a preferred connection to the belt 2 in the form of an integral molded plastic ring. 8. This figure shows a portion of the belt somewhat stretched out.....

Thus, nowhere in the specification of Wilson is there a teaching or suggestion for a straight, integral elongated handle taught in the present invention (09/704,771) and in the amended claims. Hence, there is no basis for either a 102 or 103 rejection.

The application is now in condition for allowance. Please call or fax me at (301) 603-9071 if you have any questions or comments.

Respectfully submitted,



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